

## ABSTRACT

This invention provides: a method for detecting SARS pathogenic viruses with high sensitivity and rapidity for diagnosing severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS); an oligonucleotide primer that can specifically hybridize with any nucleotide sequence constructed based on the nucleotide sequence of RNA polymerase of the SARS coronavirus; a method for nucleic acid amplification using such primer; a method for diagnosing infection with the SARS coronavirus via detection of nucleic acid amplification; and a kit for diagnosing SARS.